

What watershed am I located in?



Whether you are located within a watershed protection zone or a wellhead protection district, precautions should be taken and different requirements may exist depending on where you are located. Within each watershed protection zone, both A & B may have separate regulations and requirements to follow.



Why does it matter?

If you are located in a watershed zone, this means that anything you put onto your property will eventually drain into these watersheds and can affect aquatic resources. For example, nutrients can enter the watersheds when runoff from fertilizers and septic system leaks occur. These nutrients can cause harm to aquatic life, decrease the quality of the water, and even lead to the contamination of these waters with bacteria. This is why it is important to be aware of what is being done on your property and to take every precaution you can in order to protect water resources in your watershed.

The importance of taking precautions can be shown by the image on the right. In Florida, toxic algal blooms appeared after intense rain that brought a large amount of fertilizer run off to the water systems.



Source: Greg Lovett/The Palm Beach Post via AP

How you can help

- Clean up after your pets
- Make sure your landscaper is licensed and that it is up-to-date
- Have your septic system inspected and pumped regularly
- When washing your car, do so on your lawn or a pervious surface (i.e. shell driveway)
- Use safer choice certified products (see below)
- Please visit the health department website for specific regulations within your zone. http://nantucket-ma.gov/231/Health-Department





Products with this label have been reviewed by EPA scientists and their components must meet EPA's safer choice standards. If they meet these standards, then that product can be approved for use. These standards are based off of human health and environmental safety.

There is a list on the EPA website including all the different names of these products and what they are used for. When washing cars some recommended products to use are:

- Naturama car care products
- Green scene car care products
 - Booyah car care products

For more products and information visit the EPA website at https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products#sector=Home



